

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 OIC-04 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-14 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

SWF-02 OMB-01 AGR-20 L-03 DRC-01 /166 W

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC 3244

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E.O. LL652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE (TC): WORK PROGRAM AND  
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR SUMMER/FALL 1974

REFS: A)USOECD 15970; B) USOECD 15967; C) TFD/TD/791

1. SUMMARY. TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY (TCWP)  
REACHED UNDERSTANDING JULY 8 ON WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT  
BY SECRETARIAT, TC AND TCWP THROUGH NOVEMBER 1974 INCLUD-  
ING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS. MAIN FOCUS OF  
SECRETARIAT AND TCWP WORK IN PERIOD AHEAD WILL BE ON  
FOLLOW-UP TO RECENT TC DISCUSSION ON COMMODITY TRADE  
PROBLEMS AND EXPORT CONTROLS. TCWP ALSO AGREED TO  
RECOMMEND THAT NEXT TC MEETING TENTATIVELY SET FOR FIRST  
WEEK OF NOVEMBER BE MOVED TO LAST WEEK OF NOVEMBER TO  
ENSURE ADEQUATE PREPARATION. DETAILS REPORTED BELOW.  
END SUMMARY.

2. COMMODITY TRADE PROBLEMS. AS FOLLOW-UP TO TC'S IN-  
FORMAL DISCUSSION ON COMMODITY TRADE PROBLEMS JUNE 25-26  
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(REF A), SECRETARIAT ENVISAGES PREPARATION OF THREE

DOCUMENTS: (A) AN INFORMAL WORKING PAPER SUMMARIZING MAIN POINTS AND ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FROM TC DISCUSSION. AS GENERAL RULE NO RECORDS ARE KEPT OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE TC DELS TO SPEAK AS FREELY AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT CONCERN ABOUT GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, SECRETARIAT FELT THAT BRIEF SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSION WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION WOULD BE USEFUL REFERENCE PAPER FOR CARRYING ANALYTICAL WORK FORWARD.

(B) STATISTICAL PAPER TO ESTABLISH AGREED FACTUAL BASIS FOR FURTHER TC DISCUSSION, WITH EMPHASIS ON DEGREES OF DEPENDENCE OF INDIVIDUAL IMPORTING COUNTRIES ON DIFFERENT SUPPLIERS AND OF INDIVIDUAL EXPORTING COUNTRIES ON DIFFERENT MARKETS FOR A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT COMMODITIES (ANNEX, REF C).

(C) AN ATTEMPT TO LABEL DIFFERENT GROUPS OF COMMODITIES WITH COMMON CHARACTERISTICS WHICH COULD SIMPLIFY ANALYSIS AND ALSO AVOID DUPLICATION OF WORK GOING ON ELSEWHERE IN OECD (E.G. AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE) AND IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

3. EXPORT CONTROLS. SECRETARIAT PLANS TO DO SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS AND ANALYTICAL APPROACHES SUGGESTED AT JUNE 25-26 TC MEETING (REF B) PLUS A NEW PAPER ON THE INTERPLAY OF INTERNATIONAL RULES AND PROCEDURES CURRENTLY GOVERNING EXPORT CONTROLS.

4. TCWP AGREED THAT WORK ON COMMODITIES AND EXPORT CONTROLS SHOULD PROCEED IN PARALLEL, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OF THEIR MANY INTERRELATIONSHIPS. SECRETARIAT UNABLE TO PREDICT HOW FAR ALONG PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTATION WILL BE BY END OF SUMMER BREAK, AND THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT TCWP MEET AT PERM DEL LEVEL SEPTEMBER L3 TO REVIEW STATUS OF DOCUMENTATION. CWP AGREED TO MEET OCTOBER L AND 2 AT LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS FOR INTENSIVE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF COMMODITY TRADE PROBLEMS AND EXPORT CONTROLS. IN LIGHT OF RESULTS OF OCTOBER L-2 MEETING, SECRETARIAT, WITH ASSIST FROM TCWP, IF NECESSARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL PREPARE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR SUBSEQUENT TC DISCUSSION NOW TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 25-26. GROUP AGREED THAT POSTPONEMENT OF TC MEETING FROM FIRST TO LAST WEEK IN NOVEMBER WAS PROBABLY NECESSARY TO ENSURE TIMELY DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS AND ADEQUATE PREPARATION IN CAPITALS.

5. CALENDAR OF FUTURE TC AND TCWP MEETINGS IS AS

FOLLOWS:

(A) SEPTEMBER 5-6. MEETING OF EXPERTS ON LOCAL COST FINANCING OF EXPORT CREDITS GROUP.

(B) SEPT. L3. TCWP MEETING AT PERM DEL LEVEL TO TAKE STOCK OF WORK PROGRAM AFTER SUMMER BREAK.

(C) OCT. L-2. TCWP MEETING ON COMMODITY TRADE AND

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EXPORT CONTROLS AT LEVEL OF EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS.

(D) OCT. 3-4. EXPORT CREDITS GROUP.

(E) OCT. 7-LL. TCWP MEETING ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING. MEETING TO BEGIN AFTERNOON OF OCT. 7 AND CONTINUE THROUGH OCT. LL IF NECESSARY.

(F) OCT. L6-L8. MEETING OF EXPERTS ON RULES OF ORIGIN FOR GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.

(G) NOV. 5-6. TCWP MEETING AT PERM DEL LEVEL FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON WORK IN PROGRESS AND PREPARATIONS FOR TC MEETING.

(H) NOV. 26-27. TC MEETING.

6. MISSION COMMENT. TRADE DIRECTORATE HAS BEEN VICTIM IN RECENT MONTHS OF RASH OF SERIOUS ILLNESSES AND UNEXPECTED DEPARTURES OF KEY PERSONNEL. IN ADDITION, TRADE DIRECTORATE WAS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN PREPARATIONS FOR LAST TWO XCSS MEETINGS AND MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING. RESULT IS THAT ON-GOING WORK IN SOME AREAS SUCH AS EXPORT CREDITS, INTERNAL POLICIES, AND GOVERNMENT PURCHASING HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN DELAYED. BACKLOG OF WORK WHICH MUST BE MADE UP PLUS NEW WORK ESPECIALLY ON COMMODITY TRADE AND EXPORT CONTROLS WILL PLACE GREAT STRAIN ON LIMITED SECRETARIAT RESOURCES. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, MISSION REITERATES RECOMMENDATION OFTEN MADE IN PAST THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES MAKE INFORMAL WRITTEN INPUTS WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION REFLECTING WASHINGTON THINKING TO ASSIST SECRETARIAT IN PREPARING GOOD DOCUMENTATION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES TO BE TAKEN UP IN MONTHS AHEAD. SUCH INPUTS WOULD BE ESPECIALLY WELCOME IN FIELDS OF COMMODITY TRADE, EXPORT CONTROLS AND INTERNAL POLICIES. THIS APPROACH HAS DUAL ADVANTAGE OF INFLUENCING SECRETARIAT THINKING ALONG US LINES AND GIVING GREATER DIGNITY TO US VIEWS IN SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTATION THAN OTHERWISE WOULD BE THE CASE.  
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## Message Attributes

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